To the Honorable Senator Winfield, the Honorable Representative Stafstrom, and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Emily Hofstatter and I reside in West Hartford, CT. I am writing in support of the Judiciary Committee bill. I am white and live in the suburbs, and I completely support the Clean Slate bill. I have a sibling who was in prison and he has had many challenges adapting to live outside prison. I can only imagine how it is for those with additional challenges, such as systemic racial inequity. We all know that Black and Latinx receive harsher and longer sentences for the same crimes as white people, and that the statistic is far more Black and Latinx citizens are convicted.

Studies show that one of the advantages of the Clean Slate bill is the poverty rate could drop easily 20%! The work force would benefit from many with life experience, additional skills and talents. Those who work hard and very much want and deserve the opportunities available after they have served their time may see an increase of salary of 25%. This in turn adds to a healthy economy and community. It is a healthy social cycle that can be encouraged and nourished which will benefit everyone, not only those who get a clean slate.

Thank you for your commitment to serve the community as best as you can, with all citizens in mind.

Sincerely,

Emily Hofstatter West Hartford, CT

